ROBERT KIRKMAN CHARLIE ADLARD DAVE McCAIG

THE WALKING DEAD

DELUXE

30 EST. 1992 image

50 NOV

ESCRITOR
ROBERT KIRKMAN

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COLORISTA
DAVE McCAIG

ROTULISTA
RUS WOOTON

PORTADAS
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ANTERIORMENTE:

Rick y Carl encontraron un refugio temporal, pero tras un encontronazo con un caminante, Rick empezó a sentirse enfermo y cada vez más débil.

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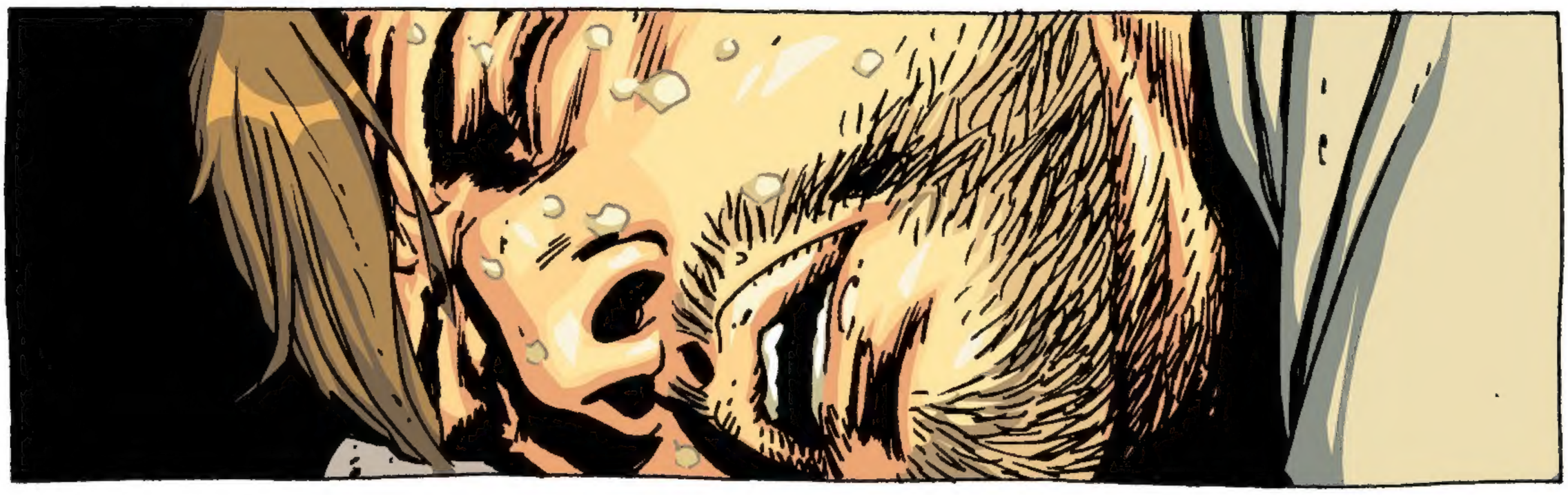


¡¿PAPÁ?!

¡DESPIER-
TA!

¡DESPIER-
TA!

¡¡¿PAPÁ, POR
FAVOR?!!
¡DESPIERTA!
¡DESPIERTA
AHORA
MISMO!

HU-
UGH.

UN.

¡YEAAGH!

=¡HUFF!=

=¡HUFF!=

=¡HUFF!=

=¡HUFF!=

=¡HUFF!=

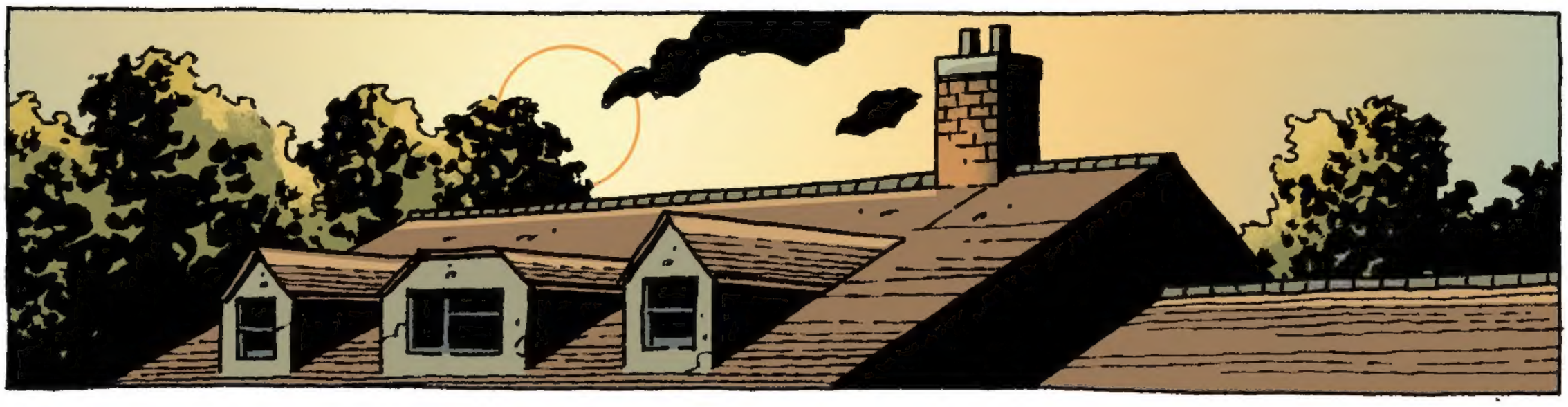
NO SE MUEVE-- NO ESTÁ MUERTO.

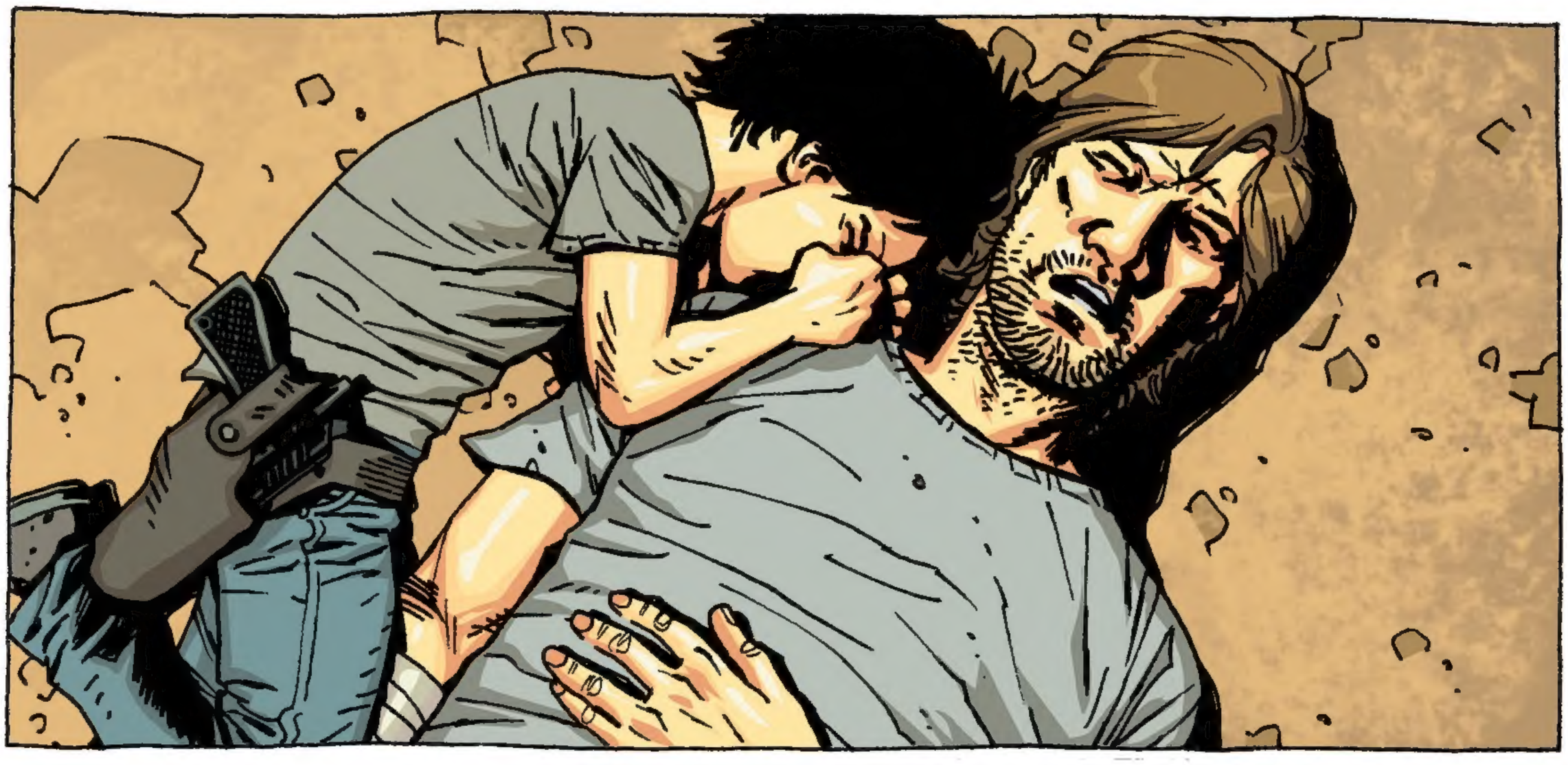
AÚN RESPIRAS.

SOLO ESTÁS *ENFER-MO.*

SI ESTÁS ENFERMO-- NO SÉ QUÉ HACER...

NO SÉ QUÉ HACER, PAPÁ.





LNGH.

HM.

ESTÁS ARDIEN-DO.

CON ESTO TE SENTIRÁS MEJOR.

MAMÁ SOLÍA-- HACÉRMELO-- CUANDO--

¡DESPIER-TA! ¡DESPI-ERTA!

¡¡MALDITA SEA, DESPIER-TA!!

THAP! THAP!

HUU-UUNGH.

GUH.

THAP!

¡LUNG!

¡VAMOS!

¡EH, SUCIOS CAMINANTES! ¡NO QUERÉIS ENTRAR AHÍ! ¡¡ESTOY AQUÍ!!

¡¡AQUÍ TENÉIS CARNE FRESCA!!

¡VENID A POR MÍ!

GUH.

SÍ-- ¡ESO ES!

¡VENID AQUÍ, CAPULLOS FEOS!

¡VENGA!

ESO ES-- SEGUID ASÍ.

SEGUID ASÍ...

SEGUID ASÍ...

VAMOS.

GRUH.

FALTA POCO--AHORA SOLO TENGO QUE COLARME DENTRO DE ESTE SITIO--Y HACEROS PENSAR QUE ME QUEDO *AQUÍ.*

THUMP.

¡¡GEAAAGGH!!

¡RAAAHH!

GHHHN.

¡OH, DIOS!

¡OH, DIOS!

¡OH, DIOS!

BLAM!

¡OOF!

BLAM!

BLAM!

¡GUHUNGH!

UMPH.

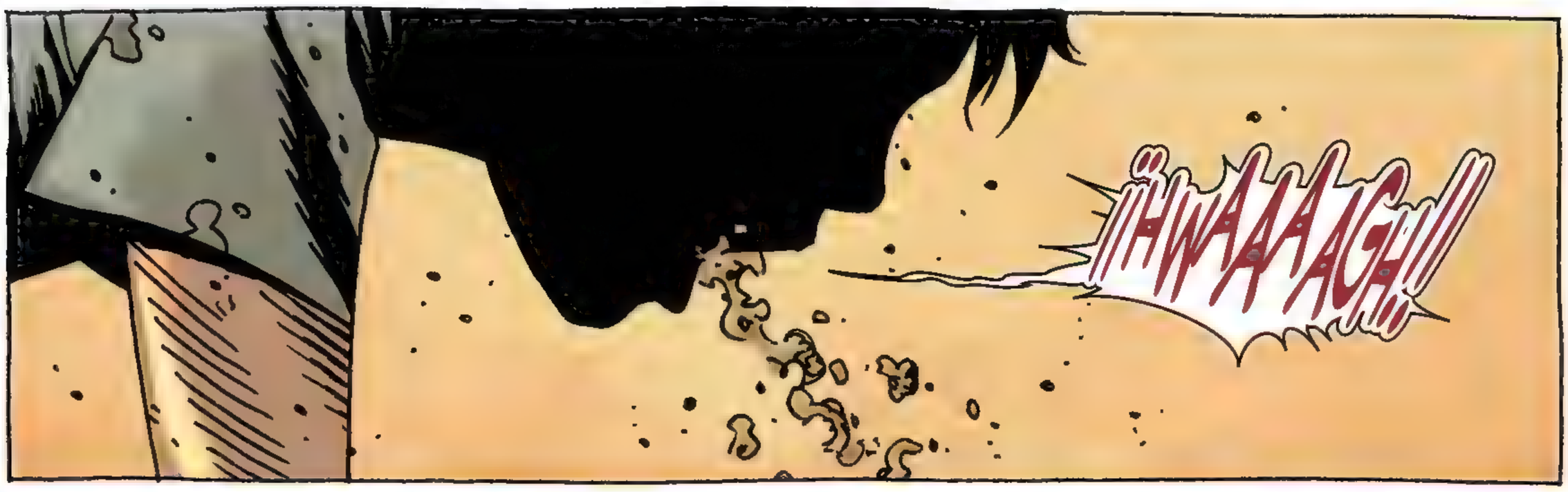
BLAM!

BLAM!

¡APESTAS!

BLAM!

¡ULP!


¡¡¡

ACABO DE MATAR A TRES CAMINANTES, PAPÁ.

TRES.

LOS HE MATADO SIN AYUDA.

YO SOLITO.

SAQUÉ MI PISTOLA-- APUNTÉ Y--

¡PUM!

¡PUM!

¡PUM!

ACABÉ CON TODOS.

BUENO-- EL ÚLTIMO NECESITÓ MÁS DE UN TIRO... PERO ME LO CARGUÉ. SÍ... COMO A LOS OTROS DOS.

APENAS HE TENIDO MIEDO.

LO HE HECHO SIN TI--

CREO--

CREO QUE YA NO TE *NECESITO.*

CUANDO TE PUSISTE MALO, AL PRINCIPIO TUVE MIEDO--PERO AHORA, YA NO. YA NO TENGO MIEDO.

YA NO NECESITO QUE ME PROTEJAS. SOY FUERTE... HE CRECIDO, CREO QUE MUCHO. TODAVÍA NO SOY ADULTO, PERO CASI. *ME FALTA POCO.*

DE TODAS FORMAS YA NO CREO QUE PUEDAS PROTEGERME...

NO PUDISTE...

NO...

¡NO PUDISTE PROTEGER A MAMÁ NI A JUDY!

¡NI A ALICE!

¡NI A ALLEN!

¡NI A TYREESE!

¡NI A DONNA!

¡NI A NADIE!

¡NO PUEDES PROTEGER A NADIE!

PERO YO--PUEDO PROTEGERME *SOLO.*

PROBABLEMENTE MEJOR QUE *CUALQUIERA* DE ESAS PERSONAS...

...MEJOR QUE *TÚ.*

SIGUES PENSANDO QUE SOY UN CRÍO--PERO *NO* LO SOY. YA NO QUIERO JUGAR CON JUGUETES. YA NO ME ASUSTO COMO ANTES.

YA NO SOY UN CRÍO. *YA NO LO SOY.*

ASÍ QUE SI TIENES QUE MORIR, ESTARÉ *BIEN.* SI MURIERAS, NO ME *PASARÍA NADA.*

TODO EL MUNDO MUERE... DA IGUAL. ASÍ QUE *HAZLO.* SI TIENES QUE MORIR.

ESTARÉ BIEN SI MUERES.

SI MUERES, NO ME PASARÁ NADA.

NO ME PASARÁ NADA.

¿PAPÁ?

GRUHUGGGH.

¡AAGGGGH!

NO PUEDO-- ES QUE--

NO PUEDO ESTAR *SOLO.*

SOLO SOY UN NIÑO--NO PUEDO VIVIR SOLO...

OH, DIOS.

DEVÓRA-ME.

OH, DIOS.

CRRLKK.

C-C-C-C--

CARL, EST--

ESTOY ENFERMO, CARL.

NO SALGAS-- NO--

NO SALGAS AFUERA--

TEN-- CUIDADO...

PAPÁ, YO--
TENGO *MIEDO*, PAPÁ.

MUCHO MIEDO.

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: **WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM**

Hello, readers. Amanda here, and we've done it, made it to the big 5-0! This issue doesn't have the biggest action we've seen or the craziest cliffhanger -- but it's very much a pivotal character point for Carl growing up. It's quieter than maybe you'd expect for a milestone issue, and I love it. We've got a slew of special covers for this issue as well, so if you're looking for something new, check out the next cover in Tula Lotay's connecting set, a NEW wraparound cover from Charlie Adlard, another incredible and colorful cover from Julian Totino Tedesco, and a pair of iconic ones from Tonči Zonjić and Andy Kubert & Brad Anderson. We'll also have a very special foil edition of Charlie and Dave's recolored original #50 cover available for Local Comic Shop Day on November 23rd. Maybe pay your local comic shop a visit and say hi from us! Until we return, enjoy some of these classic Letter Hacks.

Okay, kids... that's issue 50. Issue 50. Fifty. Fif-ty. Half-way to issue one hundred. Fifty damn issues.

Fifty.

I don't know, I'm a little awestruck to be honest. I'm not going to say I never thought we'd make it this far, because honestly, after the sales jump between issues #6 and #7 I kinda knew we'd be around for a good long while.

As for a little update on the strength of this book... this is by far the highest selling issue of the series, which is way cool and means we're pretty strong. That said, we got an unrealistic bump in sales for this issue because of our first ever variant cover by Erik Larsen and Ryan Ottley. So this issue really shouldn't count. But I've already got sales figures for issues 51 and 52 and I'm glad to report that issue 51 sold better than 49 and issue 52 is our highest selling issue yet, not counting issue 50.

So yeah, sales are still going up, little by little, every month. Even now.

Which I don't say to brag, I really don't. A lot of you weren't around in the early days of this series. Early on I would report on how the book was doing as a way of reassuring readers that the book wasn't going to get cancelled at any point in the near future. I know what it's like trying new books. Even if you love something and it's a great book--things don't catch on sometimes. It gets old after a while trying new things only to have them cancelled just when they start to get good.

It's frustrating.

That's why I let people know, this book is doing well, sales are strong... better than ever.

And y'know, I don't think I'll ever be able to accurately convey just how thankful I am to each and every one of you for making this possible. I mean, I wouldn't be here if it weren't for you guys. All of you. I wish I could fly to all your houses and give you hugs. This book is a huge deal for me. I'm so grateful that you guys and gals enjoy it.

And I'm enjoying it, too. I love working on this series. I plan on sticking with this book for years and years. And a huge part of that is the people I get to work with. Charlie Adlard, Cliff Rathburn and Rus Wooton make this book an absolute joy to work on.

Charlie, Cliff and Rus know how much I love them, so I'm not going to bore anyone with lengthy thank yous. Instead, I'm going to dive right into the mail. I don't think this is the longest letters column ever (although it might be) but it's certainly the longest I've done recently.

So here we go!

Mr. Kirkman,

I've been reading comics for many years but up until I picked up The Walking Dead I was never impressed enough to actually write in about them. Congratulations sir you are my first letter (and will completely flip out and frame the issue if said letter is printed just because I'm a nerd like that haha).

Better go buy a frame!

Truth be told I was really getting bored with comic books and about to stop buying them all together. That all changed when I went into the comic shop and my eyes fell onto TWD volume 1. The whole cover with just the right amount of color along with the black and white drawing with awesome artwork caught my eye almost immediately (not to mention it had zombies!). My first words were "whoa, what is this?" The comic shop owner went "Awesome series man, you've got to try it out" Keep in mind I was about to call it quits on comic books so I was skeptical but decided to take the gamble, handed over the 10 bucks and went on my way. On my way home I decided to thumb through the book and I was hooked immediately. As soon as the train stopped I turned around and took another 30 minute ride back into downtown Chicago and bought all the other Walking Dead issues I could find.

The whole series is just a masterpiece in my eyes. The language and color reflect the world perfectly and you've shown that you're not afraid to put some lumps (or bite marks) on the main characters.

You say "no one lives forever in this series" but you write it so well that we feel like we know the characters and understand them and then our jaw drops when one of them gets done in. I know that when Tyreese got killed I was totally shocked and then was like WHY ROBERT WHY??? WE JUST LOST TYREESE! when Axel went down. Those 2 were my favorites of the gang honestly. I just hope you spare Hershel at least for awhile longer, though I suspect with how things are going he's going to meet some untimely demise sooner rather than later. With that being said I think you can tell I think your book is AMAZING. It's rare to find a book with good art, a solid story, and the ability to get you to care about the characters but you pull it off flawlessly.

Ok, whew, Ive gotten that off my chest and have a few questions that you hopefully have time to answer.

1) Are there any plans to have what's left of the gang meet up with some new people? I know a lot of readers are asking about Duane and Morgan but I'd be content with anyone since the current crew is getting knocked off pretty regularly.

There will always be new characters coming into the fold in this series from time to time... just go online and look at the cover for issue 53. There's more on the way very soon.

2) Are there any plans for some other random Walking Dead goodies? I found a shirt at the comic shop and seen the poster on the back of issue, was just wondering if there were any plans for other stuff such as action figures, etc. I'd happily put more of my money into your pocket for more stuff to put around my room.

If you go online to www.csmoorestudio.com you can see the loads of The Walking Dead busts and statues that sculptor extraordinaire Clayburn Moore is producing. They're totally awesome. There should be more things on the horizon as well.

That's about it. My apologies if this letter was too long or seemed to ramble (first time writer remember) but I thank you for taking the time to read it. Keep up the good work sir, and remember you have a reader for as long as the series lasts!

Respectfully yours,
Fred S.

We're on track for forever right now. Keep those fingers crossed.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

Let me just tell you what a fantastic ride this has been with The Walking Dead. I've collected comics for years and have never needed the kind of "fix" that I need each time I finish another issue of this amazing book. I love the realism of the characters, and the idea that no one is safe. This has a true sense of what an apocalyptic occurrence such as zombies inheriting the earth might be like. The true horror is not entirely the zombies, but in the true nature of people, and what they are capable of doing in the name of survival.

I've been around from the beginning issue of The Walking Dead and felt compelled to write this time (issue 47) because this is the first time I feel emotionally drained from reading comics. Dude, I am on the edge of my seat on every single panel of this issue, and last issue with Tyreese, WTF. LOL.

I also want to apologize to Mr. Charlie

Adlard. When he took over for Tony Moore way back when I was not originally happy with that, but Charlie, you rock. Your art with Robert's writing makes this a very solid book, and I'm glad your on board.

I do have one question for you. Is there any plans for spin-offs away from the current storyline (like in another part of the world), I think I read somewhere that you had said there isn't, but just wanted to make sure.

Anyway, keep up the good work. I'm a fan for life

Sincerely,
Jason Thomason

Yeah, I'm pretty against spin-offs in general. For INVINCIBLE (my superhero book) that title has more characters than this one, believe it or not, and as a superhero title I think it's cool to have spin-offs, it works with the genre better. For this book, I kind of like the idea of people only needing to have issues 1 through 150 to have the whole story. There's no need to remember that a mini-series that's out there takes place between issues 45 and 46... it's all just one continuing story. I like it simple... I think it's better that way.

Kirkman,

Yes, another great issue with a nail-biting cliffhanger. It shocked me the Guv would ram the fence.

1. Wouldn't he want to take over the prison intact?

Yes, but he decided that he wasn't going to GET the prison without tearing down part of the fence and in that moment he supposed it could be fixed later. He was a bit crazy, don't know if you noticed.

2. You stated in your letter column: "I've considered the gay couple thing..." a. Are you referring to yourself in a gay relationship?

I was referring to the book, I'm sure, I've considered putting a gay couple in the series. I was actually going to make Martinez gay, until I remembered that I was planning to have Rick beat him to death– then I thought, probably not the best thing to do with your first prominent gay character. There will be more gay characters eventually... not just Dexter and Andrew.

b. How would you explain your boyfriend to your child once they were old enough to damn you to hell?

You're joking right?

Axel got dead. Damn it! I was looking forward to some character development, you follow me? So far that makes two characters who've died after sex. You sick bastard.

It's just like Friday the 13th!

I'm glad Michonne didn't die. I just realized after typing this that you'll kill her now. Let me see, who will she have sex with before you kill her? Prediction: She'll have a threesome with Andrea and Dale and then take a dirt nap.

Oh crap—now I've got to rewrite this.

I want you to kill the Guv so bad, but that means keeping him around will make for some great stories.

Well, too late for that.

3. Do you have plans to have some characters experiment sexually (gay or bisexual)?

Carol would have done it in a minute if Lori had been up for it. There will be more of this type of thing eventually... or rather some of this type of thing... because there hasn't been much of any yet.

It would make sense for a new character or even some of the existing ones to sexually experiment. These are dire times, base instincts are a huge driving force.

I don't care what others say of TWD this title is not stale or treading water at all. Shit is always hitting the fan or about to hit the fan and spray everyone.

Sophea Uk
Salem, OR

P.S. Yes, Uk is my full last name. Cambodian in the house!

Yay! Thanks for the kind words, Sophea.

Dear Kirkman,

You weren't kidding... no one is safe.

But why is it so hard for our beloved cast to kill the Governor? At least his fat henchman finally bought it. I actually cheered when it happened! I couldn't stand that character. Such a kiss-ass.

Poor Axel... I really liked him. I was happy for him when he finally got some tail. I also was hoping he would survive this ordeal so we could see him try to adjust to life outside the jail. Oh well.

I was very sorry to see Axel go as well... but that's life.

And please get rid of Lori. I really liked her at first but now she's just getting annoying. Have Rick raise the baby by himself. Well, with the help of Carl since he's missing a hand and all. That could make for some interesting stories. At the speed things are developing though, the baby would start walking around issue 500!

Can't wait to read the next issue and see what will happen to everybody.

Roch Vaillancourt

Heh, I assume you've read 48 by now.

Mr Prolific,

So I picked up the 3rd hard cover of TWD having enjoyed the 1st 2 - I'm not a horror or zombie enthusiast but appreciate great storytelling (not just YOU, Adlard, Rathburn, Wooton too right?) I couldn't wait any longer for what happened next so I bought issues 37-47 & now I'm up to date in what's been released & I've got some food for your thought.

Firstly, I will continue buying the individual issues - maybe as well as the HC's if I can afford to. So now I'm reading (& paying for) Astounding Wolf-man, Brit, Invincible & Ultimate X-men. Am I missing anything?

Marvel Zombies when it's coming out... and there's old trades like Capes and Tech Jacket that you should check out--but yeah, for the most part, I think you've got it all covered. Be on the lookout for Destroyer and Killraven from Marvel and myself in the future. And thanks for buying everything. You rock.

Secondly: how are you so prolific? I'd appreciate any insight into how you write - usually well - on a variety of subjects without all the books falling regularly behind schedule.

Some would argue that I am regularly behind schedule... and I am, a little. But y'know, I write an issue and some change every week... and the change ends up being an extra script or two a month, so I write about 5 or 6 books a month... no big deal, right?

Thirdly, I'm finding a couple of recent events puzzling. Why didn't Michonne just kill the governor (deliberate small 'g' as you have successfully created a character I have no respect for) having snuck up on him with an automatic weapon? Given their history I expected her to take the opportunity. I find it hard to believe she'd not kill him just to get her sword back. Then Andrea misses Philip sniping? Not quite as accurate because of her injury? (see how I'm providing excuses for you? I'd appreciate your thinking though :-) You've proven adept at killing important characters - I was surprised, horrified by how and sad to see Tyreese go but then for the governor to keep surviving...you better have a HORRIBLE resolution for him in 48. Also, where are the biters in this denouement? Surely a few must have avoided being shot in the head and be trying to eat the Woodbury invaders/prison defenders, especially now the fences are down? Anyway, that's a small amount of questions for the 23 consecutive TWD I've stayed up too late to read.

Okay, Michonne didn't kill gov right away because she knew she wouldn't make it out of that group alive if she just fired--they would have turned on her and shot her down--so she was going to take the Governor hostage and kill him later--but that went to hell too.

Andrea missed because no one is perfect. She hit him in the chest, from the tower--that's pretty damn close. A head shot would have been difficult at that distance for her--she's not a trained sniper... and she was injured.

Fourthly, Andrew J. Shaw. He shows up a lot. Is this a contractual obligation? Sorry if you explained this before I've only been reading Letter Hacks since issue 37.

He writes bizarre letters that entertain me. It's pretty easy to get printed if you do that.

Finally, right now I'm liking Andrea best, DON'T kill her.

Theodore Crush Devon

Andrea's fate remains to be seen... so no promises, but I will say that we do find out, one way or the other, very soon.

P.S. You're reading XXXombies right?

I haven't read all the issues yet, but I started it.

Hey KirkMan,
I've been meaning to write you to let you know what sort of reaction the current arc has wrought.

With the first red label "No One Is Safe" issue in hand, and especially after the double cliffhanger, I literally could not bring myself to read it. You had me so filled with dread that I felt as if my not reading the book could save the cast from their fate. Never had that feeling before, only to have it resurface with the series finale of The Wire, so I thank you for that.

What I finally read was far messier and more darkly comic than I had anticipated. You did an excellent job of subverting and ultimately amplifying the threat of the Governer's crew by showing how raw they were. I couldn't help but laugh as he kept ducking behind the tank - for me, shades of Spanky shielding himself from spitballs in the "Friends, Romans, Countrymen.." bit in The Little Rascals.

How old are you?

The net effect was best illustrated in Tyrese's beheading, where you don't allow the reader or the survivors the benefit of a clean slice. Reality is full of gristle and tendons and that's the sort of horror you've best captured so far.

Looking forward to not wanting to read the ending. A quick prediction... does the bit of parka on the cover suggest that it's Michonne that has Lori and the baby at gunpoint?

It was supposed to... and it was supposed to be misleading.

In other news, at the end of Marvel Zombies 2, you said something to the effect of hoping the readers enjoyed it as much as the original. While the story had a number of great premises, it didn't gel for me as a complete story. I feel like it could have been "Dawn" to MZ1's "Night" if it had been paced out a little differently. The meat for me was the Redeemed Zombie Heroes vs. Cortez' Coup. If the Civil War part had been 2 issues and you dropped the redundant and plot-convenient Hulk fight, the intrigue of Zombie Guilt vs. Survivor Rage could have had the room to breathe. As it stands, the "Bwa Ha Ha!, "to be continued...?", ending will forever damn the book to sequel status without allowing it to live on its own merits. Just a thought.

Well, the first book ended with a "To be continued...?" also. I was just trying to keep in line with the first. Your opinions are heard loud and clear. Thanks for sharing.

Would you have paced it differently now that it's all said and done?

Thanks and Cheers,
Michael

Probably not. I like the Hulk fight. I like the way it ended... I don't think I would have changed much of anything. I'm pretty proud of Marvel Zombies 2.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I have never written a letter to a comic before, but with recent events in my life, I've felt compelled to. A week ago, I was diagnosed with bladder cancer and had a tumor removed. Being a healthy 40 year old male, this has shocked and humbled me on many levels. I just want to thank you for The Walking Dead series. The terrific artistry and spectacular writing have allowed me to escape my health concerns. Like Rick states in issue №47, "Just get down and let's fight back! We can get through this!" This is what I plan on doing: Fighting back and beating cancer. I hope Rick continues to be a central figure in the comic. He exemplifies the human spirit and it's fighting nature. I would be saddened to see him leave the series but look forward to the current arc ending and the many changes it will bring. Thank you for giving me that monthly escape, and I look forward to reading this title for many years to come.

After reading this issue, I think you'll see that Rick isn't going anywhere just yet. He's been through a lot—but it's only making him

stronger. Best of luck to you in your upcoming fight. Please keep me posted on your success.

Your Fan,
Kevin J.Zaknich

P.S. I just bought the hardback copy of Marvel Zombies. I can't wait to open its pages and enter a new Kirkman world. Keep up the great work!

I hope you enjoy it.

Hyia!
Dear Crew...

You killed Tyresee and it's just... ok. It's your story, it's your world. Even with all heroes dead (but still walking) this will be one of best comic _EVER_. Still... It's a shame Tyresee died slowly, painfully, and without dignity from hands (uh, hand) of such a degenerate jerk

That's just so cruel. Awwwww, so cruel. MAAAAAAAAAAAN, SO CRUEL !!!!!

It seems nobody needs zombies anymore. People were, are, and will always be each other greatest foes. :o

Take care.
-Raiin

P.S. Who's this ? Whose boots are these ? Michonne ?

P.S.S. Please reconsider rule "one hero dies every episode". Pleeeeeeeeease.

There was never a "one hero dies every episode" rule. That said, heroes are safe in this series for a little while at least. We haven't had a death in two issues and counting.

Peg Leg beats Eye Patch.

2. Are we going to see zombie animals or are you following max brooks' rule on that zombies can only be human

That's a Romero rule, right? Either way I follow it.

3. Do you ever put little "Easter eggs" inside issues, such as putting zombie celebrities or adding quotes from movies?

Burt Reynolds' mustache appears in every issue.

4. Are we ever going to see walking dead pals... or have you made them and i just couldn't find them?

I don't know what you're even talking about.

5. I'm guessing the outbreak in the story is not a virus (i award you 30 exp. for originality) any hints to what it is. I know in the past you've said you're not releasing that information anytime soon, but i figured I'd ask anyways.

I'm not telling.

For now that's all. I would like to say thank you for making a wonderful comic that is just as fun to read a second time... and many more times after that. Also thanks for keeping the price minimal and not putting any of those annoying ads in between pages.

Can't wait for the next 50 issues,
Michael Olvera

P.S. know that because of the extremely... cliff hanger ending in issue 47 I've attempted to freeze myself and then have my friend thaw and revive me when 48 comes out.

How'd that work out for you?

Dear Robert Kirkman,

If you don't mind i would like to ask you some questions, I'm very curious about the walking dead. I have looked all over for a better comic on zombies, and nothing has come close to your delightfully grim yet highly addictive series. Anyways the questions...

1. Who is more like a pirate? Philip with his eye patch or dale with his peg leg?

And that does it for letters in this—our fiftieth issue. Here's to another fifty... and then another... and then another.

Hopefully we'll make it to 100 in less time. See you back here very soon for issue 51.

-Robert Kirkman

NÚMERO 50

SALA DE MONTAJE

con Robert Kirkman

THE WALKING DEAD (50)

(1) CARL REACCIONA ANTE RICK.

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6) ZOMBIS EN LA VENTANA CARL CORRE ESCALERAS ARRIBA...

(7) SALE AFUERA -- HACE QUE LOS ZOMBIS LE PERSIGAN...

(8) (9) ZOMBIS TRAS CARL...

(10) SE ENCUENTRA UN TERCER ZOMBI!

(11) LOS MATA A TODOS...

(12) (1) RICK EN EL FONDO. ENTRA CARL. SE SIENTA EN SILENCIO -- MIRA A SU PADRE -- EMPIEZA LA CHARLA.

(13)

(14)

(15)

(16)

(17)

(18) RICK HABLA COMO UN ZOMBI.

(19) CARL SE DETIENE -- SE DISPONE A DISPARAR... PERO SE DETIENE... VA A DEJAR QUE RICK LE MATE.

(20) RICK SIGUE ENFERMO... VOMITA.

(21)

(22) RICK SE DESPIERTA -- CARL ESTÁ COCINANDO -- ES TOTALMENTE INDEPENDIENTE.

A TODA PÁGINA: CARL ABRAZA A SU PADRE -- SIGUE ENFERMO

CARL: "TENGO MIEDO."

SIEMPRE VUELVES A MI LADO, PAPÁ -- SIEMPRE.

Este siempre ha sido uno de mis números favoritos de THE WALKING DEAD. Tanto es así que cuando llegó el momento de que esta historia ocurriera en la serie, ¡tuve que escribirla una segunda vez! Fue divertido. (Estoy bastante seguro de que lo del pudin fue idea de Scott Gimple).

Este fue un verdadero punto de inflexión en la serie para mí, cosa que está muy bien, dado que es un número de aniversario importante y tal. Carl Grimes siempre había sido un protagonista del cómic, pero la mayor parte del tiempo estaba en un segundo plano. Era joven. Era un crío. Ya le habían pasado muchas cosas, pero casi siempre formaba parte de la historia de otro. Incluso cuando recibió un balazo, la historia giró más en torno a la reacción que tuvo RICK cuando dispararon a su hijo que en torno a Carl.

Así que este número fue el principio de las historias centradas en Carl. En las que tomaba las riendas y decidía por su cuenta, algo que se extendería hasta el final de la serie, y aquí empezó todo eso.

Me encantaba Carl Grimes. Veréis, está feo tener favoritismos con los personajes, pero me encantaba escribir a este pobre chaval que había tenido que crecer en el apocalipsis zombi.

También fue divertido hacer un número centrado únicamente en dos personajes, o mejor dicho en UNO, durante todo el número. Después de todo lo que había pasado en el arco anterior, simplificamos las cosas y nos centramos de lleno en la caracterización.

Y rematamos el número con una doble página. ¡¿Cuándo habíamos hecho algo así?! Creo que no lo volvimos a repetir después.

Desafortunadamente para esta sección, bueno... la historia no sufrió grandes cambios durante el proceso. Fue una aventura muy simple y muy cerrada de Carl Grimes... ¡y MIRAD la trama VACÍA en la página anterior! Esto se escribió prácticamente solo. Recuerdo que este número fue muy fácil de escribir. Hoy en día no me pasa con mucha frecuencia, por no decir nunca. Escribí la trama a medias, luego me metí de lleno en el guion, se lo pasé a Charlie Adlard y nos pusimos a la faena.

Creo que este es uno de los pocos números de la serie en los que Charlie recibió un guion COMPLETO antes de empezar a dibujar... pero cuanto menos se hable de ello... mejor... para mí... porque es embarazoso.

NOTAS DE PÁGINA:

1: Síp. Así es. Carl reacciona. Para empezar las cosas a lo grande.

2-5: Y mirad ese hueco. Carl entró en pánico porque Rick se había desmayado. ¡Fácil! No hay necesidad de ponerlo en un papel antes de escribir el guion.

6: Vaya, mirad eso, quizás inicialmente esto no iba a ser una página a toda plana. ¿Carl corre escaleras arriba? Nah. Quítalo. La idea era que corriera escaleras arriba y saliera fuera para despistar mejor a los zombis, y al final pensé: "Eh... utilizará la puerta de atrás. Eso servirá".

7-10: ¡Sí! ¡Esto tenía que ser una secuencia de cuatro páginas! ¿Estaba la página 9 haciendo tiempo para que el zombi que está detrás de él apareciera al pasar a la página 10? ¡Quizás un poco! Pero me reafirmo en ello.

11: Esto se amplió hasta la página 13. Quería que a Carl le resultara más complicado matar a los zombis por sí solo. Me parece que eso era mejor que matarlos a todos en una sola página.

12: Vale, esto se pospuso, pero mirad el hueco que hay en la trama hasta la página 18. Y la trama termina aquí con "empieza la charla". Sabía exactamente lo que era "la charla". Ese largo y farragoso discurso sobre lo independiente que Carl se cree ahora, lo seguro que estaba de sí mismo, su rabia por haber perdido a su madre, su dolor... conocía todos los pormenores hasta el punto que dedicar tiempo a apuntarlo todo en un papel me habría retrasado.

A estas alturas, había adoptado un nuevo método de trabajo. Especialmente para escenas largas como ésta. Yo trabajo con una plantilla, así que todas las descripciones de los paneles están definidas y hay una ventanita debajo de cada descripción para el diálogo. No es más que un archivo .doc que creé para mí y en el que escribo todos mis guiones, nada del otro mundo, pero lo que me permite es escribir fácilmente los diálogos de un cómic y luego volver a rellenar las descripciones de los paneles más tarde. La verdad es que agiliza el trabajo porque no afectas a la fluidez de los diálogos para redactar las descripciones de los paneles. Te limitas a visualizar lo que está ocurriendo y a escribir todo el diálogo. Y mientras retocas las descripciones de los paneles más tarde, puedes releer y revisar el diálogo.

Así que así fue como lo hice. Me limité a escribir a ordenador el discurso completo de Carl tal y como lo había planeado. ¿Para qué molestarse en escribirlo en papel?

Pero no os preocupéis, estas tramas se vuelven más densas a medida que avanzamos en la serie. Las escuetas como esta son pocas y poco frecuentes.

18: Mirad, incluso en documentos pensados solo para que los viese yo, sigo escribiendo descripciones confusas.

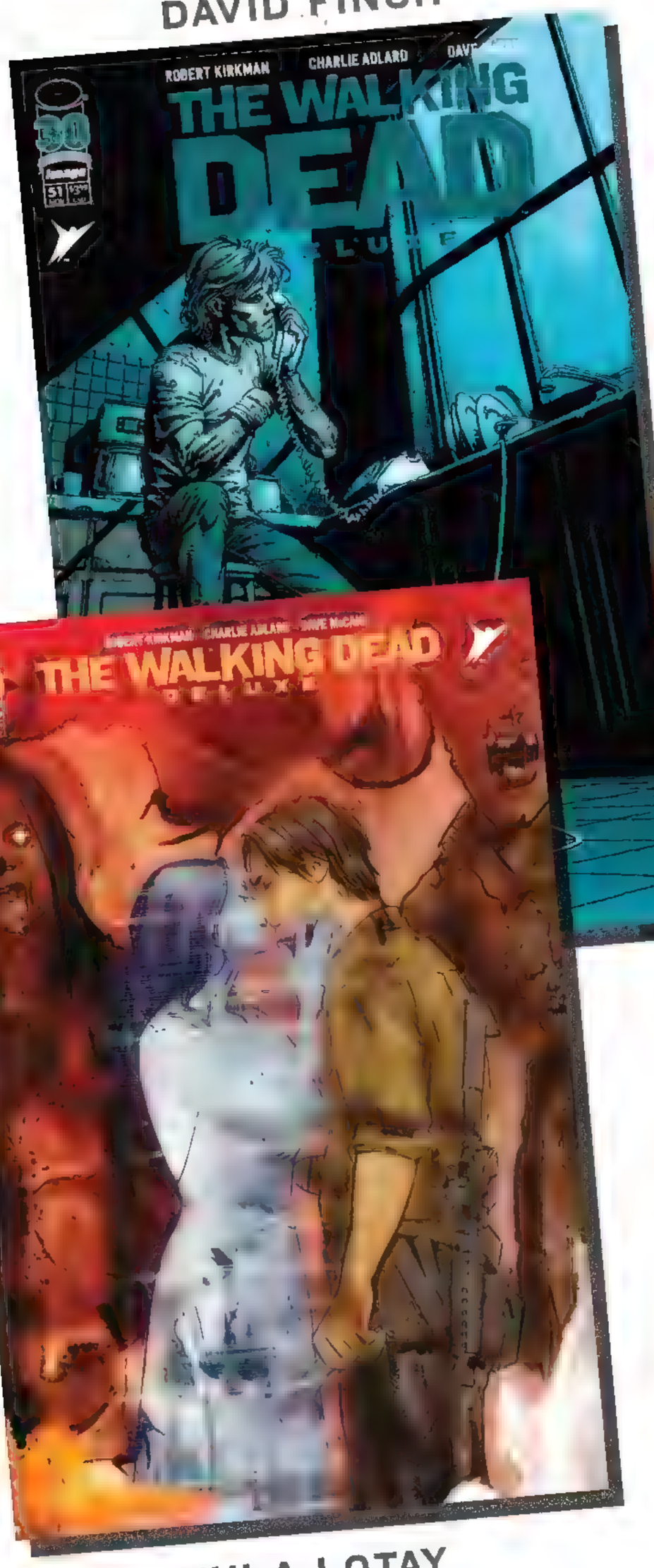
20: Oh, otra revisión. Me deshice del vómito.

22: Mirad esto. DOS posibles alternativas abandonadas para el final de este número. Originalmente, tenía planeado terminar con un Carl que fuera completamente autosuficiente y que cocinara para Rick cuando se despertara. Probablemente fue lo primero que apunté, mucho antes de empezar a planear el número, así que lo descarté pronto. Luego estaba el final de "siempre vuelves a mi lado, papá—siempre". Quizás era un poco más melodramático y un precursor del "nosotros no morimos" de Rick y Andrea mucho más adelante. En cualquier caso, me quedé con el final de "tengo miedo". Carl voló demasiado cerca del sol, y ahora tiene las alas cortadas... pero solo por ahora.

PORTADA
ARTHUR ADAMS
COLORES NATHAN FAIRBAIRN

"Creíamos que éramos los únicos--"

DAVID FINCH



CHARLIE ADLARD

TULA LOTAY

JULIAN TOTINO TEDESCO

NÚMERO 51

¡DISPONIBLE 16 DE NOVIEMBRE, 2022!

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PORTADA ORIGINAL DEL NÚMERO 50 DE
CHARLIE ADLARD* & *CLIFF RATHBURN

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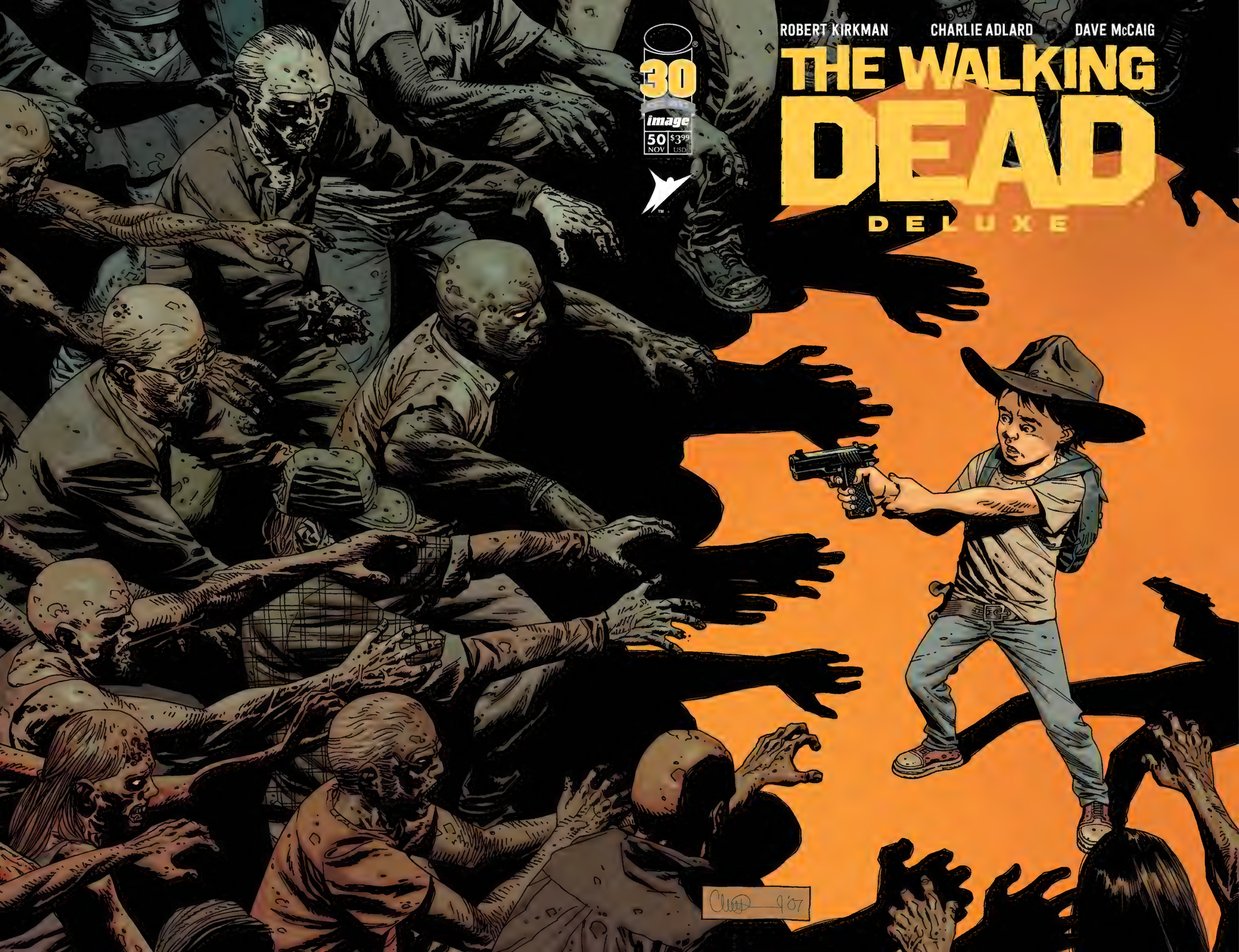

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